

DD/R # 339-62

10 July 1962

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Defense
Research and Engineering
(Intelligence and Reconnaissance)**

**SUBJECT: CIA Interest in Naval Radio Research
Observatory (NRRO)**

1. This Agency has recently evaluated the NRRO for its usefulness in satisfying critical National Intelligence requirements. If the designed criteria are satisfied in the completed installation, it would provide useful intelligence information on Soviet electronic emitters. However, this same type of information can probably be obtained more readily and with greater consistency by other intelligence collection techniques which would have an earlier availability date. The primary advantage that the NRRO would have would be its immunity from political involvement.

2. Since this installation could have some potential contribution to U.S. intelligence, it would seem appropriate for the Intelligence Community to consider funding some of the operational costs when and if the installation is completed. However, its relatively poor competitive position vis-a-vis other collection systems would not warrant the allocation of significant intelligence funds for the construction of the installation.

Signed Herbert Scoville, Jr.

**HERBERT SCOVILLE, Jr.
Deputy Director
(Research)**

DDR/HScoville:mh (10 Jul 62)

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